

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/927,601

Examiner

Charles Chow

Applicant(s)

EKMAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/14/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 12-14 and 17-23.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Detailed Action

1. This office action is for amendment received on 11/14/2006.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-8, 12-14, 17-23 are allowable over the prior art of record. The prior arts fail to teach the allowable features, singly, particularly, or in combination.

Applicant has canceled rejected claims 9-11 & amended independent claim 8 with allowable features from objected claim 11. Claims 1-7 were indicated to be allowable in the last office action. The added new independent claim 17 which contains the similar allowable features as in claim 1.

The prior arts fail to teach the allowable features, having benefit of effective filing date of 2/11/1999, for the **structure** having at least one **gatekeeper connected to said controllers by a switched packet communication path, for handover a call, together with the** transmitting of **generated candidate list in the packet control information** addressed to gatekeeper;

the wherein the **controller including means** for generating a handover required indication for a call and **packet generating means for generating a packet addressed to gatekeeper** and the **generated packet including** control information comprising a **candidate list of alternative cells to which the call could possibly be transferred** and

wherein the **gatekeeper includes selection means for selecting one of said alternative cells in said candidate list** and packet generating means for generating a packet for sending a handover request for handing over the call to said one of said alternative cells [in independent claims 1, 17];

the **formulating** at the source controller **a packet addressed to a source gatekeeper,**

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said packet including control information comprising a candidate list identifying possibly alternative controllers; and

at the source gatekeeper, determined to which one of said target controller with said candidate list a handoff request should be forwarded and **formulating a packet for forwarding to said target controller,**

wherein handover is to be effected between two network zone, **each having a respective gatekeeper and wherein the packet generated by the source gatekeeper is address to a target gatekeeper identified from the candidate list [in independent claim 8].**

The closest prior art **Bhalla et al. (US 5,949,773)** teaches the handoff message having plural parameters as well as identity of dedicated terrestrial circuit link between target SDU & target MSC, the source BSC, source MSC, target BSC, target MSC [Fig. 3, col. 9, lines 14-37], but fails to teach the **at least one gatekeeper connected to said controllers by a switched packet communication path; formulating a packet including control information comprising candidate list, addressed to a target gatekeeper identified from the candidate list.**

Sayers (US 6,539,237) teaches the plurality of P-BTS [Fig. 4] having a gatekeeper 41, for the handover call between P-BTS [col. 11, lines 44-51] having private LAN network and public network [Fig. 4, col. 10, line 64 to col. 11, line 18], but fails to teach the controller including means for generating a handover required indication for a call and **packet generating means for generating a packet, including a candidate list of alternative cells;** **the gatekeeper includes selection means for selecting one of said alternative cells in said candidate list & the features in claim 11, the wherein the packet generated by the source gatekeeper is address to a target gatekeeper identified from the candidate list.**

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Vaara (US US 6,400,951 B1) teaches candidate list of alternative cell to which a call could be possibly be transferred [in step 64, the BSC selects cells suitable as the target cells. The selected cells is the candidate list for handover; in step 67, the BSC selects one cell from the selected cells as target cell for handover, col. 9, lines 25-36; similar in steps 74, 79 of Fig. 7], but failed to teach the selection means, the generating packet including a candidate list.

Other prior arts in below were also considered, but they fail to teach the above allowable features.

Thomas et al. (US 6,421,339 B1) teaches the gateway 26 is defined for ISDN network, gateway 24 is defined for ATM network, and gateway 22 is defined for PSTN network, the gatekeeper 44 is connected, via packet data network 30 & R/GW 34/28 to gateways 24, 32, 26 for forwarding a call [abstract, (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 6-10].

Hannula et al. (US 6,366,893 B2) teaches the service gateway 10 has conversion 152 in Fig. 4 for interfacing to various payment protocols [abstract, figure in cover page, Fig. 1, Fig. 5-6], for the payment transaction interfacing [col. 8, line 66 to col. 9, line 2; col. 9, lines 61-64].

Haga (US 6,366,576 B1) teaches routing calls between a first telecommunication network and an external telecommunication network having gatekeeper and gateway 1/gateway 2 [abstract, Fig. 1-2].

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Chow whose telephone number is (571) 272-7889. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:30pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Urban can be reached on (571) 272-7899. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Charles Chow C.C.

December 8, 2006.

Nguyen Vo

12-22-2006

**NGUYEN T. VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER**